

VIKING

There was a French Romance telling the story of Havelok, which was altered and abridged by Geffrei Gaimar. This excerpt, taken from an old poem thought lost, was found at the Bodleian Library. Can you understand any of it?

733

In humber grim bigan to lende,
In lindeseye, Rith at þe north ende.
þer sat is ship up-on þe sond,

736

But grim it drou up to þe lond;
And þere he made a litel cote,
To him and to hise flote.
Bigan he þere for to erþe,

740

A litel hus to maken of erþe,
There he built a house.
So þat he wel þore were
Of here herboru herborwed þere;
And for þat grim þat place aute,

744

þe stede of grim þe name laute;
That place was called Grimsby, after Grim.
So þat [hit] grimesbi calleth alle
þat þer-offe speken alle,*
And so shulen men callen it ay,

748

Bituene þis and domesday.

